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LETTER DATED 3 MAY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In and out of season, officials of the United States Administration have persistently included the name of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in their list of countries that are providing support to international terrorism, trying to obstruct peace in the Middle East and seeking to acquire weapons of mass destruction. The latest such opportunity was that presented by the address given by President Clinton of the United States to the World Jewish Congress on 30 April 1995. In that address, he said:

> "[There are] lands of the Middle East ... who still seek to destroy the peace - nations like Iran, Iraq and Libya. They aim to destabilize the region; they harbour terrorists within their borders; they establish and support terrorist base camps in other lands; they hunger for nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. Every day, they put innocent civilians in danger ... Our policy ... is simple: they must be contained."

In making these charges against certain countries, including Libya, the United States President is guilty of confusion and of making open threats that are entirely unwarranted, especially when he knows that Libya is not a source of international terrorism and when he is unable to produce any shred of evidence showing that it supports such terrorism. Libya, against which this charge is being made, has on many occasions declared that it condemns terrorism in all its forms and it has officially requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to send a team of his own choosing to ascertain that there are no camps in its territory that harbour or train terrorists such as are alleged by the United States. The case is rather that it was itself a victim of State terrorism when the United States, a Great Power and a permanent member of the Security Council, launched a brutal attack against it, at night, with the goal of murdering the Leader of its revolution. This cost the lives of many innocent citizens, most of them children, women and old people, and it has since been proved that the Jamahiriya had no connection with the incident used as a pretext for the attack.

The Government of the United States, which maintains that it is combating international terrorism, has given asylum to elements hostile to the Libyan people and has allowed them to move freely in its territory and to hold

meetings. A meeting was held in Atlanta, Georgia, from 15 to 18 April 1995 of the so-called "National Front for the Salvation of Libya", which is made up of terrorist elements and agents recruited by the Central Intelligence Agency to be used to undermine the security and stability of Libya in order to advance the objectives of the United States. We recall in this connection document S/1994/968, of 12 August 1994, in which we called attention to a report of 16 December 1991 by a correspondent of the newspaper Al-Hayat from one of its correspondents who had visited a training camp in Virginia for the Libyan prisoners the United States had abducted from Chad and taken to its territory in an unprecedented act of piracy that violated human rights and the Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War. This robs the United States of any credibility as a State that claims to be combating international terrorism.

We realize that the allegation made by the United States President that Libya aspires to acquire nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction is no more than an artless attempt to distract the world's attention from the obvious fact that the Israelis possess a nuclear arsenal that represents a looming danger for the Arab nation, an arsenal that they built with the direct support of the United States while other States in the region were prevented from acquiring nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. The entire world knows that the Jamahiriya has declared on numerous occasions that it does not seek to acquire nuclear weapons because it lacks the capacities necessary for it to do so and because it is a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. It has allowed the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to visit the country, and he has confirmed that it is in compliance with the provisions of the Treaty.

In connection with the United States President's accusation that the Jamahiriya is trying to destroy the peace in the Middle East, the truth is the exact opposite. More than any other State, the Jamahiriya is anxious for the success of peace in the region, that is to say for the success of that just, lasting and comprehensive peace that it believes can only be achieved by the establishment of a democratic, non-racist and non-nuclear State in Palestine in which Palestinians and Jews live on an equal footing and brought about in a manner similar to that in the case of South Africa.

The Jamahiriya firmly rejects all of the charges made by the United States President in the address indicated and sees in them a mode of conduct at variance with that required in international intercourse and one that embodies deliberately hostile intentions that are incompatible with the provisions of Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations. It calls upon the Security Council, as the organ that bears responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, to prevent the United States from undertaking any action prejudicial to the sovereignty and independence of the Jamahiriya or tending to undermine its security and stability.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed A. AZWAI
Permanent Representative